

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-12 remain in the application. Claims 1-12 have been amended. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 9 may be found in the specification, for example on pages 6 and 7.

2. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 5-9, 11, and 12 are not anticipated by Green (WO 98/10571).

Green fails to disclose or suggest that the replacement cover includes at least means for providing keys for applications and changing the functionality of the keys, as recited by claim 1.

Green also fails to disclose or suggest equipping the replacement cover with at least means for providing keys for applications and changing the functionality of the keys, as recited by claim 9.

Green discloses an adaptor that is placed on a keypad in order to reduce the number of the keys to be used. This makes the phone easier to use and reduces the number of miskeyings (page 2, lines 4-10). Green also discloses that the user can have some numbers to choose from, while the other numbers are stored in the memory and the user can scroll these other numbers from the memory (page 3, lines 7-15). Thus, a separate keypad adapter is placed on top of the existing keys of the phone, without first removing or replacing the cover of the telephone. In other words, a new keypad is placed on top of an existing keypad as an auxiliary device, and there is clearly no provision of a replacement cover.

Consequently, the solution differs from the solution disclosed in the present application. In Green, the function of the

keypad does not change, but the keypad in question is still a normal keypad of the telephone. The main purpose of Green is to provide larger keys, wherein for example physically impaired persons are capable of using the phone.

The starting point in the present application is that the users can change the user interface of the phone according to their needs; for example, in a game application one can use a user interface with only a few keys, which makes for example, playing an action game easier. Thus, the functions change to a totally different mode. When changing the user interface, it is also possible to change the position of the display, so that the display can be situated, for example, in the middle, and the game control keys on the sides (see Figures 6d and 6e).

The main difference between Green and the present invention is that the whole interface is changed substantially in parallel to the second part, onto or in the place of the second part. In the present application the normal key functions of the phone are changed to correspond to those for an application, for example, a game function, when the phone is turned into a game mode (page 6, line 7 to page 8, line 17). Green only discloses placing an adaptor on the keypad of a mobile phone without changing the user interface. The position of the display also remains the same all the time.

At least for these reasons, independent claims 1 and 9, and dependent claims 5-8, 11 and 12 are not anticipated by Green.

3. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-4, and 10 are patentable over the combination of Green in view of Fuhrmann et al. (WO 97/32423, "Fuhrmann").

Claims 2-4 and 10 depend from claims 1 or 9. The combination of Green and Fuhrmann fails to disclose or suggest that the replacement cover includes at least means for providing keys for applications and changing the functionality of the keys, as recited by claim 1.

The combination of Green and Fuhrmann also fails to disclose or suggest equipping the replacement cover with at least means for providing keys for applications and changing the functionality of the keys, as recited by claim 9.

Fuhrmann, cited in the present application on page 8, lines 18-19, and also cited in the IDS filed therewith, is owned by the present Assignee and relates to replacement covers. Fuhrmann discloses that a user may replace the cover of the phone with a different cover, but that the functions remain the same. In this solution it is assumed that the old cover is detached and substituted with another one.

The present Office Action appears to indicate that Fuhrmann discloses a replacement cover with a display (see page 6, line 8). Applicants respectfully disagree because Fuhrmann only discloses a cover that has no display or keys but only has an opening for a display and for keys.

Thus, the combination of Green and Fuhrmann fails to disclose or suggest a replacement cover with at least means for providing keys for applications and changing the functionality of the keys, as recited by the independent claims.

At least for these reasons, claims 2-4, and 10 are patentable over the combination of Green and Fuhrmann.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph V. Gamberdell, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,695

2 February 2005
Date

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to 703-872-9306 on the date indicated below, addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

Date: 2/2/2005 Signature: Marge Mire
Person Making Deposit